



# Utah Crop Progress & Conditions

Utah Field Office · PO Box 25007 · Salt Lake City, Utah 84125  
(800) 747-8522 · (801) 524-3090 FAX · [www.nass.usda.gov](http://www.nass.usda.gov)

Issue 28 Week Ending September 21, 2008

Rick Kestle, Director

Released September 22, 2008

## Agricultural Summary

This week farmers received plenty of rainfall around the state. The days suitable for field work are 6.8 days. The harvesting of small grains is almost complete. Livestock continue to do well.

## Field Crops Summary

Box Elder reports producers have started to harvest corn silage. Producers have reported that some fields are not mature enough but are concerned about getting it into the pit as the season is getting late. No reports of high moisture grain corn being harvested yet but it should begin soon. Some safflower is also being harvested. Yields vary greatly depending on the field and when it was planted. Producers are busy preparing fields to plant fall grain. The harvesting of alfalfa seed is underway within the county but farmers are reporting variable yields. Onion harvest has also commenced. Producers are beginning to lift onions as part of the process to get them dry before heading to the storage warehouse. Fruit producers are busy harvesting the later varieties of peaches. This is occurring about 2 or 3 weeks later than normal due to the cold spring. Cache County farmers have been extremely busy harvesting alfalfa hay before the rains descend. Farmers are also beginning to chop silage corn. Winter wheat growers are excited about the recent rain showers that are coming periodically. Morgan County reports farmers are working on third crop alfalfa and will begin corn harvest this week. Tooele County reports Harvesting 4th crop alfalfa. Due to cold weather in the month of May it has been a short year and 4th crop isn't as large as normal. Farmers will be harvesting silage corn this week while farmers continue to make good progress on planting fall alfalfa and fall grain. Carbon County reports the harvesting of corn silage and 3<sup>rd</sup> cutting alfalfa has begun. Emery County reports thundershowers this past week limited field work. Iron County reports light rains have improved soil conditions in the area.

## Livestock Summary

Box Elder reports sheep producers are beginning to send heavier lambs to market and the lighter lambs being put on feed till they reach the desired weight. The herds will begin moving from the summer ranges to fall pastures and crop residue fields. Many producers are very concerned because the drought has hurt pasture growth for fall and winter feed. High prices of hay may prevent many producers from buying additional feed supplies. As a result, heavier than normal culling will be the result. Cache County reports Livestock are doing well. Ranchers are nervous about declining prices for feeder cattle. Ranchers and dairymen wonder how long they can continue to pay for high feed prices. Beaver County reports range conditions in part of the county look good but in some areas it is very poor. Emery County reports cattle and sheep will be moved off of the summer range over the next few weeks. Cattle and sheep did well on summer ranges this year but winter ranges may not provide enough forage throughout the winter.

### Crop Progress for Week Ending September 21, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5 Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Onions Harvested	57	56	73	58
Oats Harvested (Grain)	87	81	97	94
Winter Wheat Planted	49	17	26	39
Corn Dent Stage	77	47	80	81
Corn Mature	29	15	52	43
Alfalfa Third Cutting	78	69	95	93
Alfalfa Forth Cutting	10	1	44	34
Apple Harvested	19	6	39	45
Peach Harvested	89	88	84	91
Pears Harvested	15	12	76	88

### Crop & Livestock Condition for Week Ending September 21, 2008

Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Range & Pasture	4	12	33	42	9

### Livestock Percent for Week Ending September 21, 2008

Item	Current Week	Previous Week	Previous Year	5-Year Average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Cattle Moved from Summer Range	19	6	67	36
Sheep Moved from Summer Range	18	4	38	29

### Soil Moisture for Week Ending September 21, 2008

Item	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	6	32	62	0
Subsoil	12	39	49	0
Stock water supplies	8	24	68	0